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# CITY of BEAVERTON

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CITY OF BEAVERTON HOSTS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR PUBLIC PLAZA AT THE ROUND**

**WHAT:** The City of Beaverton officially begins its transformation of The Round's South Plaza with a groundbreaking ceremony.

**WHERE:** South Plaza at The Round, which is the semi-circular space located south of the eastbound Beaverton Central Station MAX station platform (12725 SW Millikan Way).

**WHEN:** Friday, June 28 at 9 a.m.

**WHO:** Beaverton Mayor Denny Doyle, Beaverton City Councilors, Jerry Jones, Vice President and General Manager of Lanphere Construction and Development, and Lorraine Clarno, President of the Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce.

**WHY:** The new plaza construction is the next step in an effort to revitalize the city's new Creekside District and The Round. As it exists today, the future plaza space is a leftover portion of "Esplanade Street," a prior developers' concept for The Round that was never fully realized. This expansive area contains a patchwork of different surface materials.

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** — Mayor Denny Doyle and Beaverton City Council will officially kick off construction of The Round's new South Plaza (12725 SW Millikan Way) with a groundbreaking ceremony on Friday, June 28 at 9 a.m. They will be joined by Jerry Jones, Vice President and General Manager of Lanphere Construction and Development, and Lorraine Clarno, President of the Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We're about to see a more vibrant South Plaza," said Mayor Denny Doyle. "We're creating a welcoming outdoor plaza that will be a pleasant gathering place for a variety of community activities in the heart of Beaverton."

The semi-circular plaza space, located south of the eastbound Beaverton Central Station platform, will be home to a 38-foot-tall, 6-foot-diameter sculpture designed by artist Devin Laurence Field titled "Three Creeks One Will," along with a grove of trees and outdoor gathering spaces with amenities that included moveable seating and subtle changes in plaza levels.

The new plaza construction is the next step in an effort to revitalize the Creekside District, preceded by changes in ownership during the last year, first with the city's purchase of the South Office Building and second, with ScanlanKemperBard Companies (SKB) acquisition of the 24-Hour Fitness building, the parking garage building, the retail spaces along SW Crescent Street, and the undeveloped properties at The Round.

The city is leading the South Plaza effort and SKB is contributing to the funding of the project in the amount of \$250,000. In May 2012, the city selected Koch Landscape Architecture (KLA) to be the landscape architecture firm to design the South Plaza, and in May 2013, selected Lanphere Construction and Development to build it for just under \$487,000.

In addition, SKB plans to improve surface parking and landscaping at The Round. They will improve some vacant lots for surface parking, which will meet city design standards. Lastly, SKB has donated Lot 3 near the creek to make the city's creekside improvements more feasible.

In 2013, Beaverton was again recognized as the **safest city in Oregon**. Since 2007, Beaverton has been named one of the safest cities in the Northwest. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was one of just four cities of its size recently recognized as a **"Smarter City" energy leader by the Natural Resources Defense Council** and **one of the 100 Best Places to Live in America** by *Money* magazine. In addition, Beaverton was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine, an **All-America City finalist**, as **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com*, **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine, the **Recycler of the Year** from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**, the Beaverton Community Vision program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter. Beaverton also enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. For more information, please visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov). Fans are also encouraged to like the City of Beaverton on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton) for information, reminders and City of Beaverton news.

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**Caption:** Depiction of the sculpture to be installed at The Round's new South Plaza. The plaza is scheduled to be completed by fall 2013.